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The Common Cause

OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

LAW-ABIDING.] ***Societies and Branches in the Union 561.*** [NON-PARTY.

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[The National Union does not hold itself responsible for opinions expressed in signed articles.]

Notes and News.

A New Imperial Order.

It is said that the King has been advised by the Government to create a new Order of the Empire, a distinction to be conferred on those who have rendered services to the whole Commonwealth. The question whether women's services shall receive recognition is now under consideration. Mr. Massey, Prime Minister of New Zealand, is reported in *The Daily Express*, January 6th, to have said:—"I certainly think that if this new honour is given to Empire men it would be right and proper to extend it to Empire women. In this way the Empire could recognise the splendid work women have done throughout the war. In New Zealand women of every rank have come forward, and have not failed in performing any task that could be performed. I am strongly of opinion that the work of the women should be recognised."

The best form of recognition of British women's work for the whole Commonwealth would be the removal of the artificial barriers left between them and more effectual service.

No token of recognition would be so impressive, nor have such splendid results as the enfranchisement of British women. To give the Franchise NOW, in this present crisis, and in the name of the public weal, would call out such a response from the new citizens—the womanhood of the Commonwealth, would give such a mighty impetus to the work being done for the Empire, that on these grounds alone it is imperative that it should be done. Nor would it ever be forgotten from one generation to another, how the women of Britain received their political freedom.

"Previous Experience Unnecessary."

The almost panic-stricken fear of capable women which obsesses Civil Service officials is considered at some length in an able article in *The Daily Express* of January 5th. "*There is not the smallest doubt that in all Government Departments money is being wasted on salaries paid to inefficient girl-typists,*" is the conclusion. It is not so much the fault of the girls themselves. The Government Departments have their own mismanagement to thank. "Demands were made for large numbers to come forward, and it was stated that previous experience was unnecessary. As a result, hundreds of girl-milliners, young dressmakers and shop assistants offered their services and were accepted. They have done their best certainly, but, without experience or training, what could be expected of them? A woman holding a responsible post said lately that the work of her department could be carried on with half the number of workers if only properly trained women replaced the untrained and half-trained young persons—presumably engaged at a half-wage. "*There is an obvious fear of women,*" the writer goes on to say frankly, "*expressed in the dealings of many Government officials, and apparently the Treasury takes the lead.* They do not want to pay women good wages, because they are afraid good pay will attract the expert worker, who will prove herself every bit as capable as themselves." The criticism, if outspoken, is completely justified.

An unfortunate manager, compelled to control a dozen lively, half-educated and quite untrained young "lady clerks," once was heard to say plaintively: "I sometimes think that if we had only got a lady to engage them at the start we might have done better!" This *cri du cœur* must have been uttered by hundreds of bewildered males, whose idea, in the first instance, was to secure cheap and presumably docile female labour for all the monotonous worse-paid work "for the time of the war only"; interesting work, highly-paid work, work requiring initiative, experience and knowledge being reserved for the Sex-in-possession. We have repeatedly pointed out the extravagance and folly of this course. Is it really too much to expect of Mr. Neville Chamberlain that he may show himself ready to learn from past experience; that now another department has to be created, the Fossil Official shall not have the first and last word? Competent women are to be found in plenty, ready to take responsible posts, if fair and sufficient salaries are offered them, and as the Director-General of National Service is not handicapped at the start by a dead-weight of highly-paid and stall-fed incapables, he ought to be able to choose the new staff on their merits. Let Mr. Chamberlain set about asking for the right type of women, and see above all things that his organisers are capable of selecting the right type when presented, and the Director-General's office will be, as it should be, a model of efficiency.

Or he can try the old recipe once more—import a number of dead-head officials from other departments and engage some hundreds of junior shop-assistants as "female clerks" at 25s. to help them—"previous experience quite unnecessary."

An Example.

The Bank of England does not apparently find Mr. Neville Chamberlain's difficulty in discovering women of business. Over six hundred women are now employed there. And the enormous rush of business consequent on the issue of a new loan, which might have been thought overwhelming, has been quietly prepared for in Threadneedle-street by the help of the women clerks. But the Bank of England has been a pioneer employer of women, and from the outset a woman with a university education was appointed to organise the new experiment.

Not Protected by the Munitions Act.

Some interesting evidence is given by *The Times* of January 6th, as to the great number of women who are not protected by Clause 7 of the Munitions of War Act. "At the very lowest calculation," Miss Macarthur is reported to have said, "there are over 100,000 women munition-makers who

are not yet granted a living wage. Some of the trades in which the workers are subject to the leaving clauses of the Munitions Act, but have no order fixing their rates, are :—

"All electrical engineering trades, which include all telegraphic and cable accessories, electric light, dynamos, and motor work, and Marconi work; brass foundries; bolt and nut and screw trades; rope and cable makers; saws and files; all rubber trades; soap and chemicals; the brick trade; and all work at the Potteries."

A glaring instance of low wages, Miss Macarthur continued, was at a Southampton factory, where a Government award decreed that a woman of 18 might begin at 2d. an hour, and if her work was satisfactory might after a year receive 2¾d. an hour, a problematic war bonus of 2s. being paid only on certain conditions. Owing to the Government award being in the ambiguous form of "if the work is satisfactory," it was at the discretion of the employer to withhold the extra farthings if he chose. In November last 120 girls applied for their leaving certificates, as Southampton is one of the six cities of England where the cost of living is highest. The chairman of the tribunal stopped the case until a settlement could be come to, but no award has been made yet and the original scandalous rates continue. The foremen are Spaniards and Italians, who adopt a very harsh attitude towards the girls.

Miss Macarthur gave another instance of a large firm engaged in electrical engineering and shells which pays women of 18 from 8s. 9d. to 13s. 3d., with 1s. a week bonus. There are women who have been in this firm for thirteen years and who are still earning only 13s. a week. These are only two cases out of a large number.

"The Undiscovered 'L 2.'"

In an article on Women Aeroplane Workers by Sara Tooley, which appeared in *The Daily Chronicle* last week, the following passage occurs :—"In pre-war days, welding was deemed skilled work for men and paid as such, but now that women do it so well, it is denoted semi-skilled and paid at 4d. an hour for beginners and 8d. for skilled workers." Mrs. Tooley, in writing this has quite inadvertently, we feel sure, advocated an illegal procedure. What she says about skilled work being paid at an unskilled rate, impugns the Circular with regard to women's labour, known as L 2, which enacts that :—

"Women employed on work customarily done by fully-skilled tradesmen shall be paid the time rates of the tradesmen whose work they undertake."

The minimum wages asked by trained women welders on undertaking work are the same as the man welder's minimum before the war. We feel sure that *The Daily Chronicle* cannot wish to advocate or encourage the undercutting of men's skilled work by women.

Some Educational Problems.

Many interesting points were raised at the various Educational Conferences held last week. There was a prevailing recognition of the need for raising the status and payment of all grades of the teaching profession, and for reconstruction of our whole national system of education to meet the changed needs that are coming.

Dr. Barbara Tchaykovsky and Miss Beatrice de Normann, speaking at a meeting of the Classical Association at Leeds on the Educational Aspect of Infant Welfare Work, urged that this was work of primary national importance, and that though it had developed very rapidly during the last few years much more required to be done. At the conference of the Educational Association at the Imperial Institute the need for sex education was discussed, and the question of teaching in schools was considered. The success of women as teachers in boys' schools was discussed at a meeting of the Froebel Society. Miss Turner, Assistant Inspector to the L.C.C., considered that they had come to stay, at any rate for some years, and that many of them managed boys remarkably well; while Dr. Piggott, of the Hornsey County School, said that it must not be supposed that women were successful only with the younger boys. Some did very well with the upper classes of a school. It may be noted that women teachers in boys' schools are offered, as a rule, the same scale of pay as that of men, while there does not seem to be any corresponding rise in the salaries offered to teachers in girls' schools. This is unfair to the girls, as the boys' schools, by offering higher pay, are able to obtain the first choice among the more energetic and ambitious women teachers.

A New Era for Girls.

"A new era has already begun so far as girls' schools are concerned," said Miss Burstall, Head Mistress of the Manchester High School, at a meeting of the Association of Assistant Mistresses last week. Parents were showing a new keenness, she said, about their daughters' progress, and the Universities were thronged with women students. The girls had made good in the hospitals—where they were working both as doctors and nurses—in the laboratories, the farms, banks, offices, and Government departments. There would be work enough for them and for men for many years to come.

The Woman's Movement in Italy.

A deputation composed of Dr. Teresa Labriola, Professor Anita Pagliari of the jurisdictory section of the National Council, and Signorina Laura Casta, secretary of the Suffrage Committee, has been received by Signore Sacchi, a member of the Government. The deputation had been commissioned to inform the Minister of the vote passed by all the feminist congresses in Italy, and also by the various Italian feminist and suffragist associations, on three problems as to which Italian public opinion is now so developed that their solution has become possible—namely, the abolition of the legal necessity for a husband's authorisation of his wife's acts, the admission of women to the profession of advocates, and the recognition of women employed in public offices as fit to undertake duties and responsibilities equal to those of men.

The Minister's reply convinced the deputation that he holds modern and liberal views on the emancipation of women, and that one of the problems they had stated had already been solved, while the others would be seriously considered in a spirit of altruism and equity. According to *The Agenzia Nazionale*, a decree abolishing marital authorisation will shortly be issued, and is to be regarded as an acknowledgment on the part of the Government of the good work done by Italian women during the war.

THE WAR CABINET.

Prime Minister	Mr. D. Lloyd George (L.), Carnarvon—S.
Lord Pres. of Council ...	Lord Curzon (U.).
Without Portfolio	Mr. Henderson (Lab.), Barnard Castle—S.
Without Portfolio	Lord Milner (U.).
Chancellor of Exchequer	Mr. Bonar Law (also Leader of the House of Commons) (U.), Bootle, Lancs.—S.
OTHER MINISTERS.	
Lord Chancellor	Baron Finlay (U.).
Home Secretary	Sir G. Cave (U.), Kingston—S.
Foreign Secretary	Mr. Balfour (U.), Lond. City—S.
Colonial Secretary	Mr. W. Long (U.), Strand—S.
Secretary for War	Lord Derby (C.).
Secretary for India	Mr. A. Chamberlain (U.), Birmingham W.
Pres. Local Govt. Board	Lord Rhondda.
Pres. Board of Trade ..	Sir Albert Stanley (U.), Ashton-under-Lyne.
*Minister of Labour	Mr. Hodge (Lab.), Lancs., Gorton—S.
First Lord of Admiralty	Sir E. Carson (U.), Dublin University.
Minister of Munitions ...	Dr. Addison (L.), Hoxton—S.
Minister of Blockade ...	Lord R. Cecil (U.), Hitchin—S.
*Food Controller	Lord Devonport (L.).
*Shipping Controller... ...	Sir Joseph Maclay.
Pres. Board of Agriculture	Mr. R. Prothero (U.), Oxford University—S.
Pres. Board of Education	Dr. H. A. L. Fisher, Sheffield (Hallam Division)—S.
First Com. of Works ...	Sir Alfred Mond (L.), Swansea—S.
Chancellor Duchy	Sir F. Cawley (L.) Prestwich—S.
Postmaster-General ...	Mr. Alfred Illingworth (L.), Heywood.
*Pensions Minister	Mr. G. Barnes (Lab.), Glasgow—S.
Attorney-General	Sir F. E. Smith (U.), Liverpool.
Solicitor-General	Mr. G. Hewart (L.), Leicester—S.
Secretary for Scotland ...	Mr. Munro (L.) Wick—S.
Lord Advocate	Mr. J. A. Clyde (U.), Edinburgh—S.
Solicitor-Gen. Scotland ...	Mr. T. B. Morison.
Lord-Lieut. Ireland... ...	Lord Wimborne (L.)—S.
Chief Sec. Ireland	Mr. H. E. Duke (U.), Exeter—S.
Lord Chancellor Ireland...	Sir I. J. O'Brien.

*Indicates a new office.
S. Indicates Suffragists.

The Women's Vote in California.

A valuable article by Miss Mary Roberts Coolidge, Ph.D., showing how women in California have used their vote appears in *The Woman's Journal* (Boston) of December 16th.

Raising the Tone of Politics.

"The most important thing that the women of California have done," writes Miss Coolidge, "has been to raise the level of suffrage itself. And they are doing it in a very natural, inconspicuous, and dignified way. In 1911, when they first had an opportunity to vote, women registered as a matter of conscience, rather than to support one party or another as men generally do. As a class they have shown themselves essentially non-partisan, and far more interested in causes—issues—than in particular candidates or parties. Their feminine intuitions make them keenly alive to the dangers of machine politics, and they are more and more the despair of politicians who wish to herd the voters ignorantly to the polls.

"Californian women during the past four years have been quietly studying the political issues on which they have to vote. They have invited to come before them State and local candidates in order to take their measure. They are quick to feel the untrustworthiness of candidates who try to hypnotise the voter with loud oratory, and who dodge straight answers to questions. This accuracy of judgment may, perhaps, be due to feminine experience with naughty boys and evasive men-folk—whatever the cause, it is one of the surprising results of woman suffrage in this State."

Obtaining Better Candidates.

In politics, Miss Coolidge maintains, women display a surprising combination of idealism and practicability. They want clear issues, and are suspicious of sweeping pre-election promises; and they want clean candidates. "The women voters will not support men whose private record is crooked or indecent"—an attitude which is compelling the party managers to put up better candidates—and their presence at political meetings has definitely raised the tone of election campaigns.

Legislation for the Benefit of Women and Children.

Miss Coolidge gives some instructive examples of the way in which Californian women have used their vote. Instead of demanding impracticable things, the larger women's organisations have concentrated upon a few important measures for the benefit of women and children, and have, for the most part, succeeded in obtaining these.

"They sent a delegate council to watch the legislative session but did no lobbying whatever. Every legislator had already heard from the women of his home district what bills they expected him to support, and if he shirked the fulfilment of his duty, he heard at once from the women of his home district, who were kept informed by the watchers at the council. As a result, the three measures endorsed by more than 50,000 organised women—*i.e.*, equal guardianship of children, a detention home for girls, carrying a $200,000 appropriation, and the (Iowa) Red Light Abatement law were passed by large majorities in both houses—the latter, in spite of tremendous opposition on the part of the liquor and vice interests.

"At the Legislature of 1915 the Women's Council endorsed five measures, of which four were passed—*i.e.*, birth registration; an amendment to the child labour bill raising the age limit, regulating street trades and prohibiting children under sixteen from working in certain dangerous industries; a compulsory education bill keeping children under sixteen in school until they have at least passed the eighth grade; and a home teachers' bill which permits school districts to employ a teacher to go into the homes to teach the English language, sanitation, domestic science, citizenship, &c. The only bill endorsed by the Women's Council which did not pass was one making it mandatory to put women on all juries in which a woman or a child is a defendant."

When Women Vote more Heavily than Men.

"Throughout the country districts women register and vote in about the same proportions as men, except when some moral issue arises, when they invariably vote more heavily. In the two large college towns, Berkeley and Palo Alto, they out-register and out-vote the men as a rule. There has been an attempt on the part of Anti-Suffragists to make it appear that women in San Francisco, particularly, were slow to register and loth to vote. The fact is that there are, on the average, 130 men to 100 women in the population of San Francisco, and women, therefore, should be considerably less than half of the voting adults. At the last mayoralty election the women unquestionably re-elected the incumbent as against the notorious Eugene Schmitz who tried 'to come back.'"

Overcoming Lawless Interests.

In this election it was the women of the best residential districts who registered and voted in the greatest proportion, and this gives great promise for the future of the City, because there are special difficulties there that cannot be overcome in a few years.

"It must be remembered," Miss Coolidge explains, "that San Francisco gave a heavy vote against woman suffrage five years ago and Oakland a somewhat lighter one, because of the heavy vote of the owners, promoters, and hangers-on of saloon, café, and 'red light' property, and the 'open-town' class in general. With such a preponderance of men in the population, and with such a concentration of the lawless interests, the women's vote can as yet make little apparent effect, but it is greatly to their credit that the women have not been wholly discouraged from registering and voting.

"In Los Angeles, on the other hand, where the sexes are more equally apportioned; where there has not been any segregated or open vice district for about seven years, and where the vote in 1911 was in favour of woman suffrage, the woman's vote has accomplished a very great deal in supporting clean municipal government, and in promoting advanced measures of public welfare, in which they take a very active part."

A New Bond in the Home.

It is the solid, earnest, domestic, middle-class women who chiefly vote in California, says Miss Coolidge, and who are most interested in political questions. Their new attitude towards citizenship has rapidly widened the outlook of the home-keeping women; but far from making them neglect their primary duties, as Anti-Suffragists are so fond of prophesying, and creating discord in the home, this wider citizenship has provided a bond of common interest that has drawn members of a family closer together.

"Father, mother, and children, especially as election time approaches, talk of candidates and issues. Schoolboys, so far from scorning their mother's opinions, quote them. The most unexpected result of woman suffrage, perhaps, is the unifying effect it has had upon the family. Women vote not only as intelligently, but even more conscientiously than men; and are getting thereby a re-education which enables them to keep up with their children and their husbands intellectually. They have raised, and, because of their more unworldly aims, they will continue to raise, the whole level of voting citizenship."

The Story of Freedom.

The struggle for Women's Suffrage is, no doubt, the biggest essay made in this country and in our generation towards political freedom. The women of Britain participate in social freedom; they are coming more and more into the possession of economic freedom; real political freedom cannot be much longer withheld. These reflections are aroused by glancing at the syllabus of a University Tutorial Class on *The History of Political Freedom.** The first book that strikes one's eye among those mentioned is Nevinson's well-known contribution to Jack's sixpenny series—"The Growth of Freedom"—and almost immediately following is Lord Acton's "The History of Freedom, and Other Essays." In these two books—a big one and a small one—we probably reach the source of inspiration of a course of study to which wide historical reading and much reflection have contributed.

The general discussion of freedom from the historical standpoint brings one to consider the various struggles against European tyrannies. The danger of Europe in the long run (though sometimes its temporary advantage) seems to have lain with the Strong Man. What is begun as a struggle for freedom may degenerate into an autocracy or a tyranny as objectionable as that which it set out to destroy. It is idle

* The class meets at the L.C.C. School of Photo-Engraving, Bolt Court, Fleet Street, on Wednesday afternoons at 2.30; fee 2s. 6d. for the session.

wondering, perhaps, what mankind would be like if its political history had been different. Supposing there had been no French Revolution, no American Revolution, no Crimean War. . . . There would have been much less bloodshed, of course; but should we to-day be groaning under an intolerable tyranny, or should we have discovered how to tame mankind and have learned freedom in other ways?

History, however, is what it is. The snapping of the chain that bound Europe to Napoleon led to a wonderful renascence of the national idea. America's nationalism had indeed preceded Napoleon; but afterwards came Greece, Belgium, the matchless romance of Italian unity, and the emergence of independent Balkan States. The story of nationalism is being written before our eyes at this moment—in Serbia, the Balkans, Poland, Ireland. . . . It were a bold person who would say to what all this tends. One hopes it will lead to respect for individual differences and characteristics, for only on the general recognition of the different characteristics and contributions of nations is European unity possible.

In the history of struggles for freedom our own country occupies an honoured—perhaps a foremost—place. We have had cataclysmic movements like the struggle of King and Parliament that culminated in the Revolutionary Settlement of 1688; short and sharp agitations like that for the Reform Act of 1832; and on the other hand ceaseless influences like the Women's Movement which, constitutional, steady, and quiet for a long time, itself became (in some of its manifestations) violent and menacing because sick at heart with deferred hope. Of some of those struggles the result was pretty complete and final; some—like the Chartist movement—failed, or did not achieve anything like what the promoters expected; some are re-emerging in new forms. The Free Trade controversy, for example, one of the big struggles of the past century, and, on the whole, a democratic one, has probably been much changed in its aspect by the war.

Organisation for war obviously raises certain big questions in freedom. What are the limits of personal freedom? What shall be the State's attitude to freedom of thought and speech, of conscience and opinion? What are the rights of the individual? . . .

We have gloried in our freedoms—the freedom of the Press, for example. It is suggested in some quarters that that freedom should be restricted or subject to a censor. The difficulty is that most of us think this high-handed procedure might righteously be applied to the papers of which we do not personally approve! We have seen a well-known newspaper publicly burned by the Stock Exchange; that in itself is nothing—it may be one's own turn next! But if newspapers and publications are to be burned by the Public Hangman, or censored by Act or Regulation, on what principle is it to be done?

This is but one question of many. How to secure the highest possible level of national life, reducing poverty and misery to the meagrest dimensions, allowing the freest expression of personality, and interfering as little as may be with human will, initiative, enjoyment, satisfaction—that is our problem. Women will feel that real social and political progress must be unsatisfactory and one-sided while one-half of the people is excluded from citizenship; but the historical study will amply repay itself in showing how political freedom has to some extent been won, and what, for weal or woe, has been done with the advantages gained.

A. R.

"Peace with Security" is the title of a new booklet by Mr. Geo. G. Armstrong, author of "Our Ultimate Aim in the War." Written from the same point of view as the earlier book, it deals with the later international happenings—Mr. Lloyd George's "knock-out" interview, the American "League to Enforce Peace," the German peace overtures and President Wilson's Note. It is based on Mr. Bonar Law's pregnant dictum: "We are fighting for peace now, but we are fighting also for security—for peace in the time to come." Issued at 3d. by the Blackfriars Press, 74, Swinton-st., Gray's Inn-rd., W.C. (Advt.)

A NATIONAL FRANCHISE.

A DEMONSTRATION will be held in the

KINGSWAY HALL, KINGSWAY, LONDON,

on SATURDAY, FEB. 10, 1917, at 3 p.m. (Doors open at 2.30.)

to demand

VOTES FOR ALL MEN AND WOMEN

so that

SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AND WOMEN

SHALL NOT BE EXCLUDED FROM THE PARLIAMENTARY REGISTER.

Chair:

The Rt. Rev. The LORD BISHOP OF LINCOLN

Speakers:

Rt. Hon. SIR JOHN SIMON, M.P.; Mr. W. C. ANDERSON, M.P.; Miss MARY MACARTHUR; Councillor MARGARET ASHTON; Mrs. BARTON.

TICKETS Numbered and Reserved, 2/6; Reserved 1/- and 3d. (War Tax included). Apply to The Secretary, National Council for Adult Suffrage, 27, Chancery Lane, London, E.C.

"The Common Cause" Hut.

The Munition Workers' Welfare Committee of the Young Women's Christian Association have heard with gratitude that readers of The Common Cause have generously promised £500 for a hut for munition girls. The Committee have decided to allocate this sum for a much needed hut in Coventry which the Association has been asked by the Government to erect, as a place of rest and recreation for the hundreds of girls living in lodgings in the town. Their Recreation Huts provide light evening meals as well as opportunities for education, amusement and rest. However tried the munition worker may be, there are often evenings when she feels inclined for physical drill or dancing, and is much the better for it. Those who sit at their machines all day need the exercise. For those who are weary with standing there are comfortable easy chairs in which they can rest and read, or listen to music. Many employers now fully recognise that the right kind of recreation is quite as necessary for the health of their girls—and so for the output of munitions—as good food and suitable lodgings, and the Government is now urging that proper attention should be given to this side of "Welfare Work."

The hut at Coventry is to be called The Common Cause Hut, and will be an attractive wooden building, well lit and well ventilated, containing a large hall, with buffet at one end, and a rest room attached. £430 has already been contributed, and we would urge that everything should be done to raise the remaining £70 to pay for the whole building, so that it may be a complete gift from The Common Cause. It will cost another £200 to furnish and equip, and it is hoped that some may feel inclined to add special donations for this purpose. Chairs cost 3s. 10d., tables 27s., armchairs £1. Their gifts should be sent in the form of money, as it is advisable for the goods to be purchased in large quantities at wholesale prices.

Offers of help to wait on the girls, or to instruct or amuse them during the evenings when the club is opened, from members living in Coventry, will be gratefully received by the Secretaries Y.W.C.A., Munition Workers' Welfare Department, 24, Park-lane.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ...	359	2	9
Mrs. F. S. Tabor	5	0	0
Miss P. M. Fawcett ...	2	0	0
Miss Linnell	1	0	0
Miss de G. Merrifield ...		4	0
Miss Ethel M. Preston ...	1	0	0
Miss Mabel Taylor... ...		10	0
Miss Mary Fretwell ...		10	0
East Grinstead W.S.S. (further donation)	1	7	6
Mrs. Napier	1	0	0
Miss Frieda Shawcross	2	0	0
M. F. P.	10	0	0
Miss F. Rathbone (2nd don.)...	2	2	0
Miss Chilton	5	0	0
	£390	16	3

In addition to the above the Manchester W.S.S. collection amounts to over £40.

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL IN MACEDONIA.

A letter has just come through from Ostrovo, giving a few details of the life of the American Unit. One of the most remarkable features of the hospital is the wonderful driving accomplished by the chauffeurs. In many places the roads are almost sheer up and down, and during the present rainy weather full of ruts and mud. On the steep mountain roads it takes the driver all her time to get the ambulances to mount, and the one who accompanies her has to be continually jumping off and on to put a heavy stone behind the wheels to prevent the whole thing sliding backwards. More than one car (not belonging to the S.W.H.) has fallen over the cliffs. The coming down is, if anything, more difficult, as they have to be so careful not to jolt the wounded. The cases sent to the hospital are nearly always very bad, as the less seriously wounded are sent still further back by rail. Miss Jack in a letter home gives a few details of the interesting visitors who are constantly stopping at the camp:—

"There is a bad piece of road just in front of our hospital, and in wet weather it is a very common occurrence for huge transport wagons and other motors to stick in the mud, and if darkness comes on before they are free, they have just to remain for the night, and we have to give what help we can. Two days ago the rain came down in torrents, and nothing could

have been more miserable than the cold and the mud, and everyone was going about in waterproofs, sou-westers, and Wellington boots. Towards afternoon, a regiment of Senegalese came along, and crowded into our kitchen for a hot drink, and then passed on their way. After our supper, more arrived—between thirty and forty of them. They seemed to have strayed from their leaders, and were in the most miserable plight—soaked to the skin and shivering with cold. We brought them into our kitchen shed, and it was a weird sight to see their swarthy black faces round the open fireplace. They got their cups of sugared tea, and then the question arose what to do with them—they wanted to sleep on our kitchen floor and in our mess tent, and it seemed so hard-hearted to turn them out, a prey to the elements. They would just have dropped by the wayside, in the black darkness. However, after some little difficulty, we managed to get a bell tent put at their disposal, and into this they all huddled, with a tin of hot ashes to keep them warm. They had no sooner been disposed of, than I met a British Tommy wandering about, covered with mud from head to foot, and soaked through, but still smiling. He was in charge of a motor, but after leaving it to get help, he failed to find his car again, so I had to take him in hand, feed him, give him dry clothes, and then a shakedown in our mess tent. Another time it will be Frenchmen we have to feed and shelter; Russians and Italians, too, come along, and so it goes on.

"Although the life up here has been very strenuous, we have managed to have one evening entertainment, when we invited the officers from the surrounding camps—British, French, and Serbian. We gave some tableaux-vivants, a little play, a few recitations and songs, and the Highland reel and Irish jig danced in costume. It was all very amateurish, but as there are no entertainments of any kind in those parts, our attempts were much appreciated. It happened, too, to be my birthday. Some of the old members remembered the date, and insisted on doing something to celebrate the day. It was also the anniversary of our leaving Poshiga, in Serbia, and retreating before the Austrian army—this time we hoped we were on the eve of a big advance."

Correspondence.

MADAM,—May I as a Suffragist crave the hospitality of your columns to explain the somewhat equivocal situation into which my Suffrage principles have led me? Though I claim to be constitutional, I cannot profess to be law-abiding, for I joined the Tax Resistance League at its inception, and for the last few years have refused to make any income tax returns or to pay the tax demanded by the authorities on the income which they choose to assume that I earn. At the beginning of the war the Tax Resistance League decided to suspend activities, and certain members determined to pay under protest while the war lasted, without prejudice to future action after the war was over. Others of us—including myself—continued to resist. No action of any sort—except various orders to pay—was, however, taken against us until November, 1916, when a petition of bankruptcy was filed against me for the assumed debt by the Inland Revenue authorities. My public examination as an alleged bankrupt takes place on February 6th, and, as I feel no more at liberty to give information to the Bankruptcy Court than to the Inland Revenue authorities, I may, if the law takes its course, eventually find myself in Holloway Prison for contempt of court.

In these circumstances, I should like Suffragists to understand—even if they do not approve—my course of action. It seemed to me that when personal liberty was being more and more curtailed—sometimes necessarily; sometimes, perhaps, unnecessarily—in consequence of the exigencies of the war, it was of extreme importance to hold fast by those great constitutional principles on which men depend for the restoration of their liberties when war is over, but which do not run where women are concerned. True patriotism—as I saw it—demanded of me that I should find voluntary channels by which I could give both money and service for the common weal, while continuing to maintain that taxation without representation was tyranny, and therefore to be resisted.

W. S. PATCH, M.D., B.S.

MADAM,—It was with regret that many readers of your paper must have read the initial note in your issue of December 29th, entitled, "Hohenzollern Peace Proposals Again." THE COMMON CAUSE exists to support women's interests. Why drag in bitter political controversies and treat them in a spirit that to very many women is profoundly distasteful? This can only produce division in Suffrage ranks and alienate those to whom a sane internationalism is one of the inspiring elements of the women's movement. Anyone familiar with Germany must also dissent from the sweeping assertion that "up to the brink of war Hohenzollern rule was execrated by the great majority of Germans." The widespread respect and loyalty of the German people for their ruling house must strike every student of German life and politics, whether they approve of it or not. Besides the offence caused to English readers of your paper by a note which many will consider very unfairly biassed and provocative, there is the opinion of Suffragists in neutral countries and in enemy countries who cannot fail to be deeply hurt and indignant at such a tone in a paper ostensibly devoted to Suffrage. I may say that I see two of the chief German women's papers (as well as the principal Suffrage papers of all countries), and I notice that they abstain from any attack on their national enemies, and from dragging in international animosities. The last number of *The Frauenbewegung* opened with a beautiful appeal to German women for the spirit of love and conciliation by the veteran Suffragist, Hedvig Dohrn. At the beginning of the war the President of the Suffrage Society in a neutral country wrote that a favourable impression had been made on them by the liberal internationalism of THE COMMON CAUSE. Many will regret with me if that favourable impression is obliterated.

M. SHEEPSHANKS.

[*We think our correspondent reads a good deal into the paragraph which was not in the writer's mind. The point intended to be made should hardly be considered controversial. Our hope for the future obviously lies in an understanding between the Democracies of Western Europe and the German peoples, with whom we shall hereafter live as neighbours. That there are strong forces making for democracy no one can deny, and the day of understanding may not be so very remote.*—ED., C.C.]

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SIR DOUGLAS HAIG'S MESSAGE TO THE ARMY

BRITISH HEADQUARTERS (France),
Monday Evening.

The following special Order of the Day has been issued by General Sir Douglas Haig:—

The Commander-in-Chief desires to bring to the notice of the troops the following incident, which is illustrative of the spirit animating British women who are working with us for the common cause. One night recently a shell burst in a shop at a filling factory, in which the great majority of the workers are women. In spite of the explosion the work was carried on without interruption, though several women were killed and others seriously wounded. The remainder displayed perfect coolness and discipline in dealing with the emergency. As the result of their gallant and patriotic conduct the output of munitions was not seriously affected.

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The Educated Woman on the Land.

There was once upon a time a woman who spent her girlhood and youth as daughters at home invariably spent their girlhood and youth, even in the later Victorian Age. The boys of the family were educated and sent out more or less equipped for the battle of life; the girls, if they did not marry, stayed where they were and acquired the difficult art of carrying on such pursuits and occupations as may be carried on in a restricted area, without inconvenience to any other member of the family. When the home was broken up finally, after the death of both parents, a little, a very little, money fell to this woman's share. She was advised to invest it and live with relations. Only one woman in a thousand would have done otherwise, and she was that one. She took a very small farm, investing most of her tiny capital in the venture. For a Londoner this seemed a wild and rash scheme of adventure. No doubt the family foresaw her speedy return, without any investment, to live with relatives. Perhaps the tale might be expected to end that way, seeing that the heroine had little or no practical knowledge, and her relatives may have taken the view that "by this time her life-story was over," as Victorian novelists used to say of women of thirty. If so, their disappointment was complete. The little farm not only paid under her management— it was a striking success! But she set about succeeding with energy. She rose at four o'clock in the morning; she looked after the hot food for the poultry herself; she learned for herself all the arts and crafts of a small farm; she went to hear every lecture on agriculture or horticulture given in her neighbourhood; she bought books and read them at night; she got the best advice on the chemistry of the local soil and the manures it needed; finally, she found time to keep the accounts properly (an art which she had not acquired), and she did not try after impossibilities—she felt her way and tried her experiments on a small scale. Before very long a big London store was paying her an extra penny a pound for her poultry, because it was worth the money. Never could she be got to admit that her success was due to unusual ability—she insisted that she had only learned her business and given her mind to it, and that those who did not, "deserved to starve." But she neglected no opportunity of getting the best up-to-date scientific knowledge she could secure, and she grudged no trouble in carrying it out systematically. Let us therefore own at once that she was unusually able, and that in ordinary times others might hesitate to follow her example. But we have left the Victorian Age a long way behind us, and now the educated woman is entreated to go on to the land in a national emergency. "The lesson to be taken to heart above all others is efficiency," says *The Times*, "for there is now promise of a revival of agriculture and a satisfactory and profitable career for women may be found on the land."

Women are urged in every newspaper to become Food Producers. Every propagandist, it is true, also says that want of housing accommodation and low wages are obstacles to the career. "The cottage question in general, and the tied cottage grievance in particular, are powerful factors," says Mr. E. N. Bennett,"* in driving townwards the population of our villages. A large proportion of our cottages are, in the words of a Royal Commission's Report, "vile and deplorable dwellings, built without any adequate regard for sanitation or the air supply necessary for healthy sleep." Even of such cottages as exist there are not enough. Old cottages decay until they are abandoned; the housing problem in the country was acute long before the war. As for the "low wages," the other outstanding

* *Problems of Village Life.* (Williams & Norgate. 1s. 3d.)

difficulty, it is estimated that 60 per cent. of agricultural labourers were receiving less than 18s. per week before the war, all allowances and extras included, and highly skilled workers, such as the shepherd, seldom got as much as 23s. 9d. It is under these unpromising conditions that educated women are asked to "step in"—not only to increase our food production, but to make what they can of conditions produced by very complex causes during the last hundred years and more. At first sight it certainly looks a formidable undertaking. It is impossible to overlook in these pressing invitations to educated women to come forward, the element too often lurking in an appeal to women's patriotism—the wish to get *cheap* rather than efficient labour. Agricultural problems have been neglected for long, and we have the arrears to pay at compound interest; are we now to use women expensively educated for quite other ends, as stop-gaps? Is it too late even now to begin organising, rather than using up and wasting our woman-power?

At present the only solutions of the housing problems are unsatisfactorily vague. Country houses might, no doubt, be utilised as hostels, if their owners happened to be patriotic enough to lend them, and well enough endowed to move out and live somewhere else; but the supply of country houses seems hardly likely to be equal to the demand. Farmhouse lodgings (another suggestion) sound more promising, but the powers of the farmer's wife to "do for" lodgers are limited; for she herself is hard-worked, and servants are very unwilling to go to service in farmhouses. Building "hutments," though at first it may seem impracticable on the score of labour and cost, might, however, be worth considering; especially where small settlements of women would be able to work over a considerable area.

Experts seem to be agreed that the best way in future of sending out women emigrants to the Dominions will be in groups of twenty or so at a time; each homestead group to be sufficiently numerous, in case of temporary ill-health to carry on the work. The outlay on necessary tools and furniture is much less for one group of a score or so than it would be for a dozen different settlers. One furnace answers for the whole establishment, and one bake-house oven. Again, the great loneliness of life on the land is a serious drawback to girls and women who are quite unused to it. Life in a "bothy" is a much more cheerful matter. We have not been offered, so far as can be seen, any cheaper alternatives; and as our food supply is a vital matter, some solution of the housing problem must be found. Numbers of women are now being specially trained as carpenters, and sent to France to erect hutments there. Some of these women carpenters could be retained to build hutments for women settlers on the land in Great Britain.

There remain all the problems of water-supply, sanitation, stores, and transport. But these are exactly the problems which our Units have tackled successfully in other lands—Serbia, Russia, and Corsica. What one or two isolated women could not undertake successfully, a settlement can carry out by co-operation.

If the settlement of women farm labourers should develop after a time into a co-operative society of women farmers, all the experience gained would be invaluable. In an account which appeared last year in THE COMMON CAUSE of an estate which is divided up among a number of women-farmers, the benefits were described of the central depôt for machinery, and the advantages of clubbing together to buy seeds, tools, and fertilisers, and to send produce to market. In the near future there will probably be many openings for such co-operative farms in the pheasant-ridden counties which have almost ceased to be self-supporting. If the "bothy" scheme contributed to such a result the outlay would be repaid over and over again.

One consideration more. A few score of settlements of educated women-workers, who would be brought into continual contact with the present conditions of village-life, should bring, in their turn, a new and hopeful element into the old problems of which reformers seemed inclined to despair. When educated women were imprisoned in Holloway Gaol, Holloway Gaol bestirred itself at last, and got one or two of its more outrageous defects set right. When educated women, nurses first, and then doctors, took up their places in hospitals and workhouses, evils previously despaired of began to mend. So let us hope that when the educated woman puts herself into the farm-labourer's place, much that was evil and has hitherto been obscure and assumed to be the inevitable, may be seen clearly enough from a new angle, and found not to be in the eternal nature of things, but curable. Two hundred thousand women wanted for the land! God give them good speed!

A Great Woman Reformer.

HER ADMIRABLE EPILOGUE.*

Green's Short History, when first published in 1874, made a deep dent in the nineteenth century. The publishers held that history was the least popular of all branches of literature. But Green devised a new method, and he courageously and tenaciously stuck by it, even when friends whose opinion he valued tried to persuade him to return to the old ways as the best. He held that what really counts is the history of the people, their manner of living, their lot and share in civilisation, their growth and development. The doings of kings, statesmen, and warriors are of secondary importance. Green himself said that he felt as if he "were some young knight challenging the world with my new method." The response was immediate and enthusiastic; no work of the kind has ever received so warm a welcome. It was one of his profound sayings, disregarded by the diplomatists at the Congress of Vienna in 1815, a disregard which plays its part in the great World Conflagration to-day, that a State is accidental: "It is no real thing to me. But a nation is very real to me. That you can neither make nor destroy."

The historian died when he was a comparatively young man, leaving to his devoted wife and able colleague his last charge that she should revise the history in the light of fuller discovery and recent research. She has added an Epilogue of 150 pp. dealing with the century 1815-1914, thus removing the reproach that the Short History ended where modern imperialism arises, and that no reader or student of our school histories, or, indeed, of any histories, could arise from his study with the faintest notion of what is meant by the British Empire. There are very few people to whom one could have entrusted the task of writing the Epilogue, and it is highly doubtful whether anyone could have performed it with such skill, such fullness of knowledge and brilliant success as Mrs. Green. The Epilogue is undoubtedly the historical event of the year.

It is divided into two sections: The Social Revolution, and Foreign and Colonial Policy. The keynote of the first is the onward sweep of democracy, the fuller recognition of Bentham's great principle that the object of legislation is the public good. We have all been fed on extravagant praise of the British Constitution. All workers, all women, nearly all the middle-classes, were outside that great and glorious entity in the year 1815, and those who ran it, the narrow oligarchy that ruled Britain, intended they should remain there, whilst declaring, with thorough-paced conviction, that the mind of man could conceive nothing more admirable and harmonious. There was not a single Act on the Statute-book to help its labour to make its bargain with capital. Directly labour tried to get such act, the ruling caste treated the attempt as conspiracy and passed Six Acts to punish it. A great epic from this point unrolls itself before our eyes: the titanic struggle of a nation to realise liberty and justice, the determined effort of a resolute, powerful aristocracy, an aristocracy that had created the Empire, to rule alone, without let or hindrance. They dispossessed the peasantry of their share in the soil by Acts of Parliament known as Enclosure Acts, thus creating the most miserable landless peasantry of Europe; they placed on the Statute Book some 200 or 300 Acts by which the death penalty could be incurred for the veriest trifles; they refused to educate the people; a Parliament of landowners, employers, and capitalists, they laid down the conditions for labour and watched their observance. But bit by bit Demos encroached. Roman Catholics and Nonconformists were enfranchised; a small measure of Parliamentary reform, 500,000 voters added to the electorate, was conceded in 1832; municipal government was reformed; the Poor Law was better

* *A Short History of the English People*, by John Richard Green. Revised and Enlarged with Epilogue by Alice Stopford Green. (Macmillan & Co. 5s. net.)

administered; the feeble beginnings of national education appear in a dole of £20,000, divided between two education societies. They are modest beginnings; but they mark the turn of the mighty tide of democracy, whose flood we have not yet measured. During the century Mrs. Green reviews, we find a series of reforms unparalleled in English history, all the work of the nation itself. "In that hundred years every order and class in the State has been profoundly changed, and with these the State itself transformed in the theory of Government, the source of power, and the exercise of authority."

This is the kernel of the situation: the basis of power is changed. The State is slowly reconciling itself to Justice, to discovering the will of the people, and to doing it. The forms of Liberty have been preserved; no revolution has overthrown the Constitution. But the changes are so profound, the new powers so untried and unconjectured, that the wisest and most far-seeing are astonished at the gigantic proportion of the new Frankenstein Demos. It has broken the governing parties: the one has changed from Tories into Conservatives, Unionists; the other from Whigs to Liberals, Radicals, and new groups are even now forming. Mrs. Green notes that never has reverence for tradition fallen so low as to-day. We are so overwhelmed with the detail of all the new arrangements necessary under altered conditions that life has taken on a duller hue. Our author alludes to—

"The ever-increasing number of devoted workers in the public cause, and the incessant effort and vigilance demanded in these years of preparation for the next scene in the great transition. At no time in the history of England were the issues of constitutional changes so momentous, or the claims so great on the wisdom and mutual allegiance of the English people. The defection of any class may ensure failure."

Mrs. Green, out of the fullness of knowledge, reviews those forces and institutions which have played their part in the great onward sway of democracy. Amongst them are trade unionism, the co-operative movement, the better government of the towns, more thorough education, the dreams of a new Society, and wider humanitarianism. These were the forces behind that degree of State regulation of labour which we find in Factory and Workshop Acts, and the inspection adopted to ensure obedience, much of it objected to, even by statesmen from whom we might have expected better things. The modern demand, we are told, is not "for the mere abolition of privilege and protection of individual liberty . . . it is for the active construction of a new Society."

But England is slow in the work of reform. Mrs. Green considers that on an average it requires seventy years of agitation before a reform pill is swallowed. The movement for Women's Enfranchisement, the fact that they have paid the price for Empire, that more than 4,000,000 are engaged in money-making occupations, receive adequate recognition.

"The hundred thousand pounds a year spent by the Suffrage Societies is an outlay far greater than that of any public movement of the time. Factory workers, women employed in a host of minor occupations, and practically all the brain-workers in responsible posts and professions, have been united in the Suffrage agitation, and as the struggle for enfranchisement draws this mass of active and intelligent women for the first time into alliance with the Socialists and the Labour Party, a new force is being added to the revolutionary movement of our day."

We are reminded of the growing difficulty of discerning the true path of reform; the voices crying for it are often discordant, incompatible, irreconcilable. Many years ago Cobbett exclaimed, "If a class has failed, let us try the nation." And women reformers may echo his cry: "If a sex has failed, let us try the people."

In Mrs. Green we find a sure guide in the maze political. She is one of a too small band who distinguish between Law and Justice. Her wide knowledge, deep study, broad sympathies, her gifts of generalisation and characterisation, her realisation of the goal whither we are tending, her lucid, interesting style, make the publication of the Epilogue the historical event of the year, and one of the two or three such events of the century.

History is pre-eminently a woman's subject. In proportion to their numbers, more women students than men take the historical tripos of Cambridge University. It is the subject *par excellence* for all reformers. Not to know whence we have come, by what roads travelled, where our efforts have failed: what is all this but not to know whither we are tending, and by what means success shall crown our efforts in a more just and stable reconstruction of Society? Mrs. Green points out that the working classes, immersed in laborious detail, lack leaders and thinkers. At the same time, military discipline prevails in the Cabinet; the House of Commons suffers a loss of power which has accrued to the Cabinet; the Prime Minister of Great Britain has "become the most powerful Minister of any modern State." An old axiom of the Constitution, redress of grievances before the votes of supply, is in abeyance. The subjection of the House of Commons is complete.

We feel glad that a woman has written the Epilogue, and would have it read slowly and carefully by every adult in the Empire. But what shall we say of the besotted folly of those in authority who prevent such a woman as its author from recording her voice in the affairs of Government, whilst welcoming, and flattering, males of the meanest capacity, whatever their occupation or degree of education? The task for nations, as Lincoln observed long ago, is to establish a Government not too strong for the liberties of the people, yet strong enough to maintain its existence in great emergencies.

C. S. Bremner.

The Millicent Fawcett Hospital Units.

Sister Percival wrote from Stara Chelnoe, after Dr. Alice Benham had left there: "I am running this Hospital with Dr. Laura Forster, a little Hospital of fifteen beds and an out-patients' department. We have been kept well occupied, and I hope we shall not have to close, as it is a house of refuge for these poor people. The chief ailments seem to be Tracomma, skin diseases, tubercular troubles, abscesses, and pneumonia. We have just sent home convalescent from pneumonia a boy of eighteen, who is shortly to be called to serve his country. I feel Russia is doing so much that every life is doubly precious just now. Nearly every man has left this little place, and the people are most patriotic and brave.

"They have some very quaint customs here, amongst others, a woman who arranges marriages. She calls at the girl's house, and enquires into the quantity and nature of her possessions. She then invites the villagers to a feast, where all the girl's beautifully hand-woven towels, &c., are displayed to her neighbours, and her father then arranges her future, and the chosen young man takes home with him as guarantee the most beautiful of the girl's towels. But one girl I know objected so strongly to the chosen husband that her father had to go and cancel the engagement.

"A friend of our maid (who is a treasure!) was a very lively girl, with many admirers, all of whom were, unfortunately, called to the war. She married in their absence, but was unhappy, and behaved indiscreetly with some of them as they returned to her village. This upset her husband, and public opinion decided she had not acted as she should. A meeting was called of the Head of the Police, the Priest, and others, and she was told she must return to her home or be divorced, and so unable to re-marry for two years, and must leave the village.

"This place reminds you of Hans Andersen's stories of the 'Goose Girl,' and it is charming in all its aspects—in the summer a beautiful study in browns and yellow, in winter all white and black. As you approach the village you see chiefly numerous hay stacks, and you wonder where the houses can be. They are all made of untrimmed logs, filled in with tow; their gables all face the street, and their roofs are all thatched save one. Every house has its own courtyard, closed by a gate and fastened by a primitive lock.

"At sunset, you see all the animals being driven or returning home, cows and large herds of sheep, black and white and brown. The women come to their doors and call their own animals, and if no one opens the courtyard gate, both cows and sheep will often go up to the window and attract attention. The shepherds are now either very old men, or women or children, and they look most picturesque clad in huge sheep-skin coats and fur caps, with linen wrappings on their feet under the large 'valenkies' gaily worked in red. (The weather is so cold that I am trying to wear 'valenkies' myself, but they are too heavy and depress me, and make me feel all feet.)

"Geese abound here in legions, always returning home in state, walking down the centre of the village in twos behind a grotesque old gander, who is full of antics and plays to the gallery, trying to look very dignified. There are numberless pigs, too, of every size, colour, and shape, which wander about the village all day, making for home at night.

"You ask me what work I am doing? Nothing great as some count greatness, but just helping these poor people as

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much as I can. Besides the hospital work, I do as much cottage work as possible, because I am sure it is one of the best ways of teaching the people. One patient was a very poor woman suffering from hydrophobia, and I had never seen such a sight. We tried to get her to Kazan to the Pasteur Institute, but she died on the way. I helped to nurse a little girl with meningitis for weeks, and her mother's devotion was wonderful. Just now a scarlet-fever epidemic is raging of such a virulent nature that one family lost four out of six children. The gratitude of the parents was very touching when their only boy recovered (a girl is of little value from their point of view), and the doctor and I were presented with a towel.

"A woman who was driving us one day said, 'This war is letting the men see we can do things; but for us there would be no harvest; they see we are as strong and able as they are.'

"I am on night duty now, because we have two pneumonia cases in, and I cannot leave them to untrained help. I can muster even yet very little Russian, and here we have Refugees, Tartars, Chubasch, Morduins, and other primitive Volya tribes, all speaking a different tongue. It is impossible to exaggerate the language difficulty, though our interpreter is very good. But the gratitude of the people is most touching.

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Miss R. V. Naish ...	2	0	0
Miss A. L. Hargrove ...	1	1	0
Mrs. Hilson ...	1	0	0
Mrs. Marshall ...		10	0
Mrs. Alfred Holmes ...	1	0	0
Miss Mary F. Rathbone...	10	0	0
Miss Evelyn Lamport ...	10	0	0
Hon. Lady Acland...	1	1	0
Mrs. Robinson ...		5	6
Miss A. T. Lumsden ...	1	0	0
Mrs. Frank Raikes ...	1	0	0
Miss E. C. Pearson ...	1	0	0
Miss Laura Wilks ...		5	0
Miss Dorothea Roberts ...	5	0	0
Miss Helen M. England...	1	1	0
Miss Frances M. Harvey ...	5	0	0
Mrs. C. Harrison Myres ...		10	0
Mrs. Slack ...	2	0	0
Mrs. Paynter ...	2	0	0
Mrs. Bazeley ...		10	0
Mrs. Neirenstein, M.A. (2nd donation) ...	1	0	0
Miss Mabel Furner ...		2	6
Miss C. Robinson ...		10	0
Miss Mary Beeton...	1	1	0
Miss Mary Morton ...		10	6
Miss Charlotte B. Shaw...		10	0
Miss J. Crompton Walker ...	10	0	0
Miss Hodgkinson ...		2	6
The Misses Warton ...	1	5	0
Mrs. Thompson ...		4	0
Miss Dorothy Martin ...		10	0
Miss A. French ...	5	0	0
Per Miss D. G. Nicholson ...		5	0
Miss Edith M. Ericsson...	2	0	0
Miss M. Blanche Greswell ...	1	0	0
Mrs. Weiss ...		10	0
Per Lady Ritchie ...		10	0
Mrs. Connell...	10	0	0
Dr. Violet A. P. Coghill...	3	3	0
Mrs. T. R. Bolitho...	5	0	0
Mrs. Hersch...		10	0
Mrs. Lilian Fletcher ...	1	0	0
Miss Irene Vanbrugh ...	1	0	0
Miss Helen Colt ...		2	6
Mr. Henry Bell ...	2	0	0
Mrs. Powell ...	1	0	0
Mrs. George ...	2	0	0
Mrs. T. E. Graveley ...		10	0
Miss A. M. Ferguson ...	1	0	0
Mrs. John T. Osler ...	10	0	0
Mrs. Read ...		5	0
Anonymous ...	5	0	0
Miss Jervis Waldy ...	1	1	0
Mr. John Priestley ...	2	0	0
Miss E. S. Lidgett...	2	2	0
Mrs. E. Hartree ...	1	1	0
Christmas Sale (additional) ...	2	10	6
Miss E. Mahler ...	10	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Diver ...		5	0
Mr. Henry James ...	1	10	0
Mrs. Pumphrey ...	10	0	0
Mrs. John Lewis ...		5	0
Mrs. Hugh Eyres ...	3	3	0
Miss E. Lawder ...		10	0
Mrs. R. C. Atkinson ...		10	0
Miss Christine E. M. Burrows	2	0	0
Mrs. Ogilvie ...	5	0	0
Miss A. B. Weir ...		2	6
Mrs. Evershed ...	10	0	0
Mr. R. F. Cholmeley ...	5	0	0
Mrs. and Miss Osborn ...		10	0
Miss A. E. F. Horniman...	1	0	0
Miss Mary O. Kitching ...	2	0	0
Anonymous, Yorks ...	5	0	0
Mrs. M. D. Fennell ...		10	0
Miss M. W. Moss ...		2	6
Miss Mabel Gwynne ...	1	0	0
The Misses Stirling ...		5	0
Mrs. Hirsch ...		10	0
Mrs. Keynes ...	1	1	0
Miss Grace Clarke ...	1	1	0
Miss K. Bell...	1	1	0
Mrs. De Bunsen ...	1	0	0
Miss Susan Gatliffe ...	1	0	0
Miss E. Fitzsimmons ...		10	0
Mrs. Steen ...	2	2	0
Miss Violet M. Alston ...	1	1	0
Miss Ada Mocatta...	1	0	0
Mrs. Alfred Haworth ...	1	1	0
Miss Dorothy Marshall ...	1	1	0
Sir Thomas Barlow ...	1	0	0
Mr. J. W. Procter ...	1	0	0
Miss Frances Alston ...	1	0	0
Miss Mary Fretwell ...		10	0
Miss E. Terry ...		10	0
Miss V. Partington		10	6
"Dublin" ...	20	0	0
Miss L. C. Kempson ...	5	0	0
Dr. M. E. Franklin ...		7	6
Mrs. Macmillan ...	1	1	0
Mrs. Chapman ...	1	1	0
Mrs. Raynbird ...		5	0
Miss S. Booth ...		10	6
Mrs. Lester ...		2	0
Mrs. Gibson ...		5	0
Mrs. Hamilton ...	2	0	0
Miss M. R. Courtauld ...	5	0	0
Miss Dart and Miss E. Edwards	2	0	0
Mrs. Graham...	2	2	0
Mrs. Layton ...	2	0	0
Mrs. A. B. Jones ...	4	0	0
Rev. J. Estlin Carpenter ...	2	2	0
Miss C. M. Linnell...	1	0	0
Lady Crofton ...	1	0	0
Mr. Geo. F. Craggs ...		10	0
Miss M. A. Clay ...	1	0	0
Mrs. Heaton Ellis...	1	0	0
Mrs. Le Lacheur ...	5	0	0
Mrs. Saint ...	2	2	0
Mrs. Aukland ...	1	0	0
Mr. W. Harbutt ...	2	0	0
Per the Rev. H. H. Malleson...		10	0
Miss B. Paine ...	1	0	0
Miss Eva Cohen ...	2	0	0
M. F. ...		5	0
Miss I. S. Chree ...	2	0	0
Mrs. E. L. Kenway ...	5	0	0
Mr. J. H. Medlyn ...		2	6
Miss S. Thomas ...		2	6
Mrs. Clegg ...		10	0
Lady Helen Murray ...		5	0
	£10,126	2	8

Further donations should be sent to the Countess of Selborne, or to Miss Sterling, N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith-street, London, S.W. Cheques and Postal Orders to be crossed "London County and Westminster Bank, Victoria Branch."

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries:
MISS EVELYN ATKINSON.
MRS. OLIVER STRACHEY (Parliamentary)

Hon. Treasurer:
MRS. AUERBACH.
Secretary:
MISS HELEN WRIGHT.

Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone—4873 Vic.

Postponement of Annual Council Meeting.

In view of the political situation, the fact that Parliament does not meet until February, and that the Conference on Electoral Reform has not yet reported, the Executive Committee has decided to postpone the dates of the Council until February 21st and 22nd, and if necessary the morning of February 23rd.

The Council will meet at the Chelsea Town Hall as previously arranged.

Contributions to the General Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1916 ...	426	19	4
Received from January 1st to 6th, 1917:—			
SUBSCRIPTIONS			
Miss Evelyn Atkinson ...		5	0
Miss E. C. Harvey... ...	1	0	0
Miss F. R. Wilkinson ...	1	1	0
Miss K. F. Jones ...		5	0
Mrs. William Allen ...	1	0	0
Miss E. Q. Henriques ...	1	1	0
Lt.-Col. and Mrs. L. Blathwayt	2	2	0
Miss Janet Brooke... ...		2	6
Mrs. Pennington	1	1	0
Mrs. Alfred Illingworth...	150	0	0
Miss Grace Mitchell ...		5	0
Mrs. James Ward	1	0	0
Mrs. C. Flügel	2	2	0
Miss E. M. Greg	1	1	0
Mr. H. A. Atkinson ...		10	0
AFFILIATION FEES.			
Norwich W.S.S.	3	2	6
Louth W.S.S. (1915 and 1916) ...		14	6
Bradford W.S.S.	3	16	6
Pangbourne W.S.S. ...		14	6
London S. for W.S. ...	33	4	3
Hendon and Golder's Green Branch L.S. for W.S. ...	1	6	0
Pwllheli W.S.S. (1916 and 1917)		10	0
Newport (Isle of Wight) W.S.S.		10	0
Rotherham W.S.S. ...		10	9
Oxford W.S.S.	4	2	6
GENERAL SERVICE FUND DONATIONS.			
Miss Margaret Bradley ...	1	0	0
Mrs. James Ward	1	1	0
Miss M. A. Rathbone ...	5	0	0
Miss Isabel P. Scott ...	2	0	0
Hendon and Golder's Green W.S.S.	1	1	0
Kilmarnock W.S.S. Jumble Sale	1	10	0
Received for the Scottish Women's Hospitals ...	10	0	0
	£659	17	7

IMPORTANT.

Lost Letters Addressed to the National Union.

POSTAL ORDERS should be crossed, and filled in N.U.W.S.S.

TREASURY NOTES should be treated like coins, and *always* registered. If any contributions remain more than two days unacknowledged, please write at once to the SECRETARY, N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.

Please address letters containing money either to the SECRETARY, or to Mrs. Auerbach or Miss Sterling by name, *not* to the Treasurer.

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES

Scottish Women's Hospitals.

Old Gold. Silver. Jewelry. Watches.

are being collected in aid of the Scottish Women's Hospitals. These articles are to be melted down or realised. All contributions should be sent to

Miss S. E. S. MAIR,
Scottish Women's Hospitals, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh.

IMPORTANT TO
RED CROSS WORKERS

We hold a large Stock of MATERIALS necessary for the Making of Roller, Triangular, Many-tailed and other

BANDAGES.

White Bandage Cloth, 36 in. wide
White Flannelette, 36 in. wide
Grey Bandage Cloth, 40 in. wide
White Open Wove Cloth, 36 in. wide
Grey Calico 31, 36 and 40 in. wide
White Flannel, 26 and 28 in. wide
Domette, 27 in. wide

Samples and Prices forwarded per return post.
Special Reduced Prices for whole pieces.

Hospitals & General Contracts Co., Ltd.,
19 to 21 & 25 to 35, MORTIMER ST., LONDON, W.
(Nearly opposite Middlesex Hospital).
Telephone: MUSEUM 3140 & 3141.
Telegrams: CONTRACTING, LONDON.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS.

GIFT OF £13,000 FROM INDIA.

A cable has just been received at the Headquarters of the Scottish Women's Hospitals, Edinburgh, stating that Calcutta has presented the Hospitals with a donation of £13,000. This is the result of a number of meetings which have been held in Calcutta by Mrs. Abbott. The Scottish community responded splendidly, and the first Subscription List was opened by the Caledonian Society. One lady gave a donation of £1,000.

GIFT TO ROYAUMONT FROM AMERICA.

Through the energies of Miss Burke a magnificent new ambulance, accommodating twelve stretcher cases, has been presented to the Scottish Women's Hospitals. The donor is Mr. Emerson McMillan, of New York, and the ambulance will be the first of its kind sent to the French front. There is only one other in existence in Europe, and that is in Florence. The ambulance is very light and can be easily driven by a woman. One of its principal features is the flexible springs upon which the stretchers are hung. The cost of the ambulance approximates to about £1,500.

Subscriptions are still urgently needed. and should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Laurie, Red House, Greenock. Subscriptions for the London Units to the Hon. Mrs. Spencer Graves and Lady Cowdray, 66, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

	£	s.	d.
Forward as per list to December 28th, 1916	145,668	15	11½
Further donations received to January 4th, 1917 :—			
Mrs. Julian E. F. Harley (for London Unit)		9	7
The Misses Thomson	1	2	6
Per Alexander Weir, Jun., Esq., being don. of 10s. from Mr. A. Weir and 2s. 6d. from Mr. Jas. Grosart		12	6
Rev. David W. W. Laird... ...	5	0	0
Miss Legah	1	0	0
Dr. Dewhirst...		10	6
Miss Margaret Bayne		5	0
*Per Mrs. Wilson, M.B. Treas., Cheltenham W.S.S. : Donation from Com. of Cheltenham W.S.S. (£5), Sale of Postcards (4s. 2d.)		5	4 2
Per Dr. Frances Ivens : Miss Emma Holt	25	0	0
*Miss Brebner	5	0	0
Mrs. F. G. Ashwell Cooke ...	2	10	0
*Per Miss Hamilton : From the Domestic Staff of St. Mary's School, Melrose		10	0
Per Miss Druce, per Mrs. Evans, from the Kentish Federation		9	0
Miss L. Monk	1	0	0
Per Miss L. C. Murdoch : From Ladies' Working Party of Parish Church, Huntly ...	10	0	0
*Miss K. M. Loudon (Abbaye de Royaumont)	10	0	0
*Mrs. A. H. Handley		5	0
*Per Mrs. Salvesen, collected by Miss Alexa Jameson for "Moray Place" bed (Macedonia) : Miss Kinnear (5s.), Rt. Hon. Lord Kinnear (£1), Mrs. Alison and Miss Alison (£2), Mrs. Harry Cheyne (£1), Mrs. Turnbull (10s.), Mrs. Lawrie (£1), Miss Lawrie (£1), Mrs. Readman (10s.), The Lady Marjorie MacKenzie (£1), George Melville, Esq. (£1 1s.), Mrs. Cross (£1), Mrs. Stewart (2s. 6d.), Miss Jameson (10s. 6d.), Edgar Harding, Esq. (£2), Arthur Low, Esq. (£2 2s.), Miss Miller (5s.), Mrs. Brown (£2), F. A. Brown Douglas, Esq. (£1), Lady Scott Dickson (£5), Lady Campbell of Succoth (£1), J. Sharp Callender Brodie, Esq. (£2), William Younger, Esq. (£2), Mrs. MacMillan (£1), Lady Johnson (10s.), Lady Adam (£1), Mrs. Grainger Stewart (10s.), Dr. W. E. Frost (£1 1s.), Alex. Johnston, Esq. (£3 3s.), Mrs. Boyd (£20), Sir James Guthrie (£2 2s.), Mrs. Bain (£1), Sir Colin Macrae (£1), Misses Hunter (£2), Mrs. Stuart and Miss Mitchell (£1)	62	12	0
Per Wm. D. Beaton, Esq. : Subscribed by Wm. D. Beaton, Esq., and some of the Employees of the Electricity Works, Kirkaldy...		10	6
Per T. Blyth, Esq., Treas. of Freuchie U.F. Church, from the Freuchie U.F. Church (Serbia)	1	0	0
Per Miss Green : Anonymous...	1	0	0
*Per Miss Low : Employees Messrs. Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd.	22	0	0
Per E. Bevans, Esq., Hon. Sec., Donation from the "Carbon Works Well-Wishers'" Fund	1	1	0
*Miss L. Coats	200	0	0
*Per Mrs. Savill, from Thomas Blackadder, Esq.	2	0	0
Per Mrs. Wilson, Hon. Treas., Edinburgh N.U.W.S.S. : Mrs. Wight (£1 1s.), Employees Messrs. E. Chalmers & Co., Ltd. (£1 10s.), *Deans' Works Relief Fund (£10),*Employees Messrs. MacTaggart, Scott & Co. (£1 18s. 1d.), The Misses Raeburn (£2), T. B. Hope, Esq. (£1 1s.), *Employees Messrs. Munro & Co. (£2 4s. 6d.), Geo. M. Menzies, Esq. (£5), Collection at Parkside Works (£2 5s. 7d.), Employees Messrs. Alder & Mackay (£6 5s. 9d.), *Women Clerks, Account Dept., G.P.O. (£2 3s.), "Carriden Women's War Work Party," to continue this bed for 6 months (£25), *Employees MacTaggart, Scott & Co. (£2 0s. 3d.), *Employees Thomson & Porteous (£4 0s. 3d.), *Employees James Bertram & Sons (£5 8s. 9d.), *Employees Scottish Motor Traction Co. (£11 5s. 6d.), *Employees Ramage & Ferguson (£15), *Employees West Lothian Pottery Co. (£3 3s.), Employees James Calder & Co. (£1 1s.), *Employees Forth Ship Breaking Co., Ltd. (£1 1s.), *Employees Messrs. Brown Bros. (£7 0s. 4d.). For Blackhall beds : Mrs. Cockburn (1s.), Rev. W. B. Stevenson (10s.), Mrs. Gibson (4s.), Mr. Bee and Family (10s.), Sale of Picture Postcards (1s. 7d.) (£1 6s. 7d.)	109	15	7
*Per M. E. Mullins, Esq., Hon. Treas., Canadian Bank of Commerce, Toronto : Collections per Miss Kathleen Burke, in Canada ...	2,000	0	0
*Per Mrs. Robertson : Employees of Messrs. Dick Kerr & Co., Ltd. (£3 19s. 11½d.), Employees Messrs. M. Muir & Co. (13s. 6d.), Employees Messrs. Boyd & Forrest (£2 12s. 8d.)	7	6	1½
The Misses Wright (Serbia and Roumania)...	10	0	0
*Per Miss H. B. Paterson : From Haddington W.S.S., for "Haddington" beds	10	4	0
Per Miss Janet Higgins, Medical Officer, V.A.D., being don. from Members of V.A.D. ...	5	0	0
Per Miss Frances Fox : Part proceeds of Bazaar arranged by Teachers and Scholars of Werneth Council School, Oldham, to name "Werneth Council School" bed (Royaumont) 6 months	25	0	0
*Glasgow and West of Scotland W.S.S. Joint Com., per Miss M. C. Morrison, Hon. Treas. : The Scottish Co-op. Wholesale Society, Ltd. (£500). The Edith Cavell Tour, per Miss E. M. C. Foggo : Stranraer (£18 16s. 6d.), Glenluce, Kirkcowan, Wigtown, Castle Kennedy (£16 16s. 11d.), Dalbeattie (£9 13s. 2d.), Bladnock Creameries (£2 3s. 8d.), Kirkcudbright (£24 8s. 10d.), Creetown (£1 11s. 10d.), Castle Douglas (£30 0s. 3d.), Newton Stewart (£17 12s. 11d.), Girvan (£22 3s. 8d.), Master Tom and Miss Jessie Lees (don.) (12s.), Glasgow (£9 6s. 6d.), D. M. (Dalry) (5s.), Dumbarton (£17 8s. 6d.)—(£170 19s. 9d.). Per Miss Millar : Mrs. Kinghorn, for upkeep of "Yvonne" bed (£50), Miss Evans, Miss Warden, and Friends (£25 13s. 3d.), Mrs. Craig (whist drive) (£16), Miss Wallace (whist drive) (£13 10s.), Miss Brown (coll.) (£10), Mrs. Cowan (bedspread) (£6 10s.), Mrs. Gamble (Hallowe'en) (£5), Mrs. Warden, per Mrs. Gamble (£2 10s.), Mrs. Burns (£2), Mrs. Nesbitt (£1)—(£132 3s. 3d.). Messrs. D. M. Stevenson & Co. (£100), Castle Douglas W.S.S. Whist Drive, per Mrs. Campbell (£56 13s.), Mrs. Luke and Mrs. Holmes (whist drive), for "Bearsden" bed in Serbian Hospital (£50), Glasgow and West of Scotland College of Domestic Science, per Miss Melvin (for upkeep of bed) (£50), Collection at Father Velimerovic's Meeting (£44 19s. 6d.), Barrhead Committee (Lady Frances Balfour's Meeting) (£39 3s. 6d.), Laurel Bank School, for upkeep of "Laurel-bank" bed in Salonika (£25), Messrs. George Christie, Ltd. (£25). Per Miss McCulloch : Andrew Lees, Esq. (£1 1s.), Ayr District W.S.S. (£16 19s.), Employees of Messrs. Wm. Gray & Sons (£5), Employees of Mr. W. Milne (£1 3s. 9½d.), Miss Woodburn (3s. 10½d.)—(£24 7s. 8d.). Lenzie W.S.S., per Miss Pagan, towards upkeep of "Lenzie W.S.S." bed (£20), Scottish Society of Women Teachers, per Miss Maud May, towards the upkeep of bed in Salonika (£19 6s. 6d.), Office Staff Messrs. P. Henderson & Co., per W. L. McKerrow, Esq. (Serbia) (£17 10s.), Bellahouston Bowling Club, per Alex. Campbell, Esq. (£15), Messrs. Greenlees & Sons (Firm and Staff) (£12 5s.), Employees of Messrs. David & John Anderson, Ltd. (£12 4s. 2d.), Employees of Messrs. Simons & Co., Ltd. (further) (£11 16s. 10d.), Newton Stewart, Lady Frances Balfour's Meeting (£11 7s. 10d.), Glasgow and West of Scotland Agricultural Discussion Society, being proceeds of Mrs. Blair's Meeting, towards upkeep of "Mak' Merry" bed, per Arch. MacNeilage, Esq. (£10 12s. 6d.), Russia Society, Mr. Henderson's Lecture Recital for Dr. McIlroy's Unit (£10 10s.), Messrs. Steven & Struthers (£10 10s.), Mrs. W. F. G. Anderson (£10), Messrs. Hugh Smith & Co. (£10), Mrs. Pettigrew (£10), St. Matthew's Parish Church Women's Guild (part proceeds of sale) (£10), British Basket Co., Ltd. (£10), Kirkcolm Ladies' Whist Drive, per Rev. Albert Tarbett (£10), Employees and Staff Scottish Iron and Steel Co., Ltd. (2nd don.) (£10), Employees Messrs. Ross & Duncan (£8 15s.), Employees Clyde Trust, Renfrew (£5 11s. 6d.), Balance of Dumbarton Literary Society's At Home, per Miss M. Sherriff and Mr. McBride (Roumania) (£5 10s.), Miss Beckett (further don.) (£5 5s.), Mrs. Chrystal (£5), Miss McKean, per Miss Greenlees (further don.) (£5), Miss Boyd (£5), E. M. R. (£5), Employees of the Gryffe Tannery Co. Ltd., per Miss Dalziel (£4 17s. 3d.), Employees Messrs. Wm. Beattie (£4 12s. 1d.), Staff and Employees Messrs. William Motherwell & Co. (£4 10s.), Collection at Singer's Works (£4 10s. 3d.), The Airedale Academy (towards upkeep of bed), per Miss Paterson (£4 5s.), Staff of Glasgow High School for Girls, per Miss A. B. Read (£4 4s.), Glasgow and West of Scotland Teachers of Domestic Science (Mrs. Shaw McLaren's Meeting) (£4 2s. 9d.), Employees Messrs. Morrison & Mason, Ltd. (£3 18s. 6d.), Glasgow and West of Scotland Infant Mistress's Association (£3 13s. 3d.), Stepps Liberal Association Meeting, per Mrs. Jack, Treas. (£3 12s.), Miss F. M. Robinson (£3 6s. 8d.), Messrs. Smith & McLean, Ltd., Employees' War Fund (£3), Messrs. Stewart & Lloyds (£3 3s.), Messrs. John Lyle & Co., Ltd. (£3), Ladies' Work Party, Shawlands Parish Church, per Miss M. Morrison (Serbia) (£3), St. Mary's Cathedral Social Guild (further) (£2 18s. 3d.), Employees John Lean & Sons (£2 2s. 1d.), Messrs. Gauldie & Gillespie & Co., Ltd. (£2 2s.), Employees Craigpark Electric Cable Co. (fur. don.) (£2), Employees Cassel Cyanide Co., Ltd. (3rd don.) (£2), The Misses Buchan (£2), Employees Machine Shop Messrs. J. & T. Boyd (£2), Staff of Maclure & Macdonald (£2), Eaglesham Farmers' Society (£2), John Waterston, Esq. (£2), Employees Messrs. Alex. Jack & Co. (£1 7s.), St. Mark's U.F. Church Girls' Club, per Miss Howat (£1 3s. 6d.), Mrs. Allan M. Wilson (£1 1s.), Miss M. B. MacLaren (£1 1s.), Dennyston Forge Co. (Firm and Employees) (£1 1s.), Baxter (Motherwell) (£1), J. Winning, Esq. (£1), Miss Dalziel (£1), Miss Barclay (Johnston Meeting) (£1), M. D. (£1), A Friend (£1), Mrs. Pryor (further) (10s.), Miss M. Morrison (Serbia) (10s.), Miss M. Morrison (Corsica) (10s.), A. F. Petersen, Esq. (10s.), Sergt. James William Auld (Serbia) (10s.). Total £1,577 14s. 7d., less expenses £79 19s. 9d. ...	1,497	14	10
Miss F. G. Steel		3	3	0
Miss M. Lee—5s. for Roumania and 5s. for Dr. Inglis Unit (Serbia)		10	0
Per Miss Frances Hay, per Mrs. Curtis...		1	0	0
*From Mrs. and Miss Macdonald		1	0	0
Per Mrs. Craster Wellington, from Wellington Farm Staff School		2	0	0
Per Mrs. Craster, from J. M. S.		1	0	0
	£149,701	12	3	

FURTHER LIST OF BEDS NAMED.

Name of Bed.	*Donor.*
"Moray Place" (Macedonia) 1 year ...	Per Mrs. Salveson, collected by Miss Alexa Jameson.
"Carriden" (Salonika)	Per Mrs. Wilson, Hon. Treas., Edinburgh N.U.W.S.S., from the Carriden Women's War Work Party.
"Werneth Council School" for 6 months (Royaumont)	Per Miss Francis Fox, part proceeds of Bazaar by Teachers and Scholars of "Werneth Council School."
"Yvonne" (further) (Royaumont) 1 year	Per Miss Mirrison, Hon. Treas., Glasgow and West of Scotland Joint Committee, from Mrs. Kinghorn.
"Bearsden" (1 year, Serbia)	Per Miss Morrison, Hon. Treas., Glasgow and West of Scotland Joint Committee, from Mrs. Luke and Mrs. Holmes.
"Glasgow and West of Scotland College of Domestic Science" further for 1 year)	Per Miss Morrison, Hon. Treas., Glasgow and West of Scotland Joint Committee, per Miss Melvin.
"Lenzie" (further)	Per Miss Morrison, Hon. Treas., Glasgow and West of Scotland Joint Committee, per Miss Pagan.
"Laurel Bank" (3 months, Salonika)	Per Miss Morrison, Hon. Treas., Glasgow and West of Scotland Joint Committee, from Laurel Bank School.
"Scottish Society for Women Teachers" (Salonika) 1 year	Per Miss Morrison, Hon. Treas., Glasgow and West of Scotland Joint Committee, per Miss Maud May.
"Mak' Merry Bed" (further)	Per Miss Morrison, per Mrs. Blair, per Arch. McNeiage, Esq., being proceeds of Mrs. Blair's meeting.

MISS MURIEL MATTERS

(Student of the Dottoressa Montessori's International Course, Barcelona, February-May, 1916) will give by request

A COURSE OF SIX LECTURES

On the MONTESSORI METHOD, at the Emerson Club, 19, Buckingham Street, Adelphi, W.C., on Thursdays, commencing January 25th, at 5.15 p.m. sharp.

Fee for Course, 15s. Tickets from the Lecturer, by post, 19, South End, Kensington Square, or from the Secretary of the Emerson Club.

THE N... PUBL...

What Some of our Societies are Doing.

West Riding Federation

SHEFFIELD.—A Christmas party and Sale of Work was held on Monday, December 18th, at Nether Schoolroom, in aid of the Scottish Women's Hospitals and the Russian Unit. The sale was opened at 3 p.m. by Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher, who appeared for the first time at a public function in the capacity of a Minister's wife. There was a good assortment of needlework, children's clothing, soldiers' comforts, &c., also Houp-la and a literature stall. Tea was provided at a moderate cost, and Mrs. Lawson had kindly provided an excellent programme of music and dancing. Altogether (including donations) £31 6s. 2d. was realised, and after deducting expenses our Treasurer was able to send £13 7s. 6d. to the Russian Units, and a like amount, as well as a special donation of £1, to the Scottish Women's Hospitals.

We hope to have a Jumble Sale shortly in aid of our own office expenses.

BRADFORD.—A meeting was held on October 16th, at which Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher spoke on "The Political Situation."

On November 4th, a Jumble Sale, in aid of the N.U. General Service Fund, was held, and realised £16.

By kind permission of Mrs. James Riley, a Sale of Russian articles was held at 2, Hollings Mount, in aid of the Hospital Units for Refugees in Russia. We were much gratified by the success of the sale, £55 being sent up.

We circularised ninety-eight trade unions, asking them to pass a Suffrage resolution, with very encouraging results. Several of the trade unions not only passed the resolution but, through their secretaries, wished us every success in our efforts, and promises of help if needed.

Lerwick.

A very successful Sale and Concert were held recently in the Town Hall, Lerwick, in order to raise funds for the further support of the "Lerwick" Bed in Royaumont. The original endowment of the Bed, as well as this further effort, are due to the enthusiasm and energy of the Lerwick Emergency Helpers—an association which was organised, in the first instance, by the Shetland branch of the N.U.W.S.S.

At the present moment suffragists and non-suffragists are working side by side in its ranks with equal fervour, and are together helping to provide comforts for Shetland's sons in the R.N.R., as well as succour for their friends in France.

Warm appreciation of their efforts were expressed by Commander H. G. Alston, R.N., and Lieut.-Col. F. T. Phillips, R.M.L.I., in their speeches at the opening of the sale, which was presided over by Mrs. Leisk.

Forthcoming Meetings.

JANUARY 13.

Edinburgh—At 40, Shandwick Road—At Home—Speaker: Madame Maulet—Subject: "La Femme pendant La Guerre"—Chair: Miss Florena Raeburn 4.30

JANUARY 14.

Edinburgh—At Ardmillan Hall, National Union of Railwaymen—Speaker: Miss Alice Low 2.30

JANUARY 15.

Camberwell—Oakley Road Wesleyan Mission, Cobourg Road — Speaker: Miss Swankie Cameron, on "How to Help Win the War" 3 p.m.

Edinburgh—At 39, Cowgate, Medical Mission—Lantern Lecture, Scottish Women's Hospitals—Lecturer: Miss Alice Low 8.0

JANUARY 17.

Birmingham—Perry Barr Quarterly Women's Meeting—Speaker: Mrs. Ring 3.30

Bristol—Working Party, at 40, Park Street 3.0—5.0

JANUARY 18.

Dewsbury—At Home, Town Hall, in aid of Scottish Women's Hospitals—Hostesses: Mrs. Edwin Lee and Miss Walker 4.0—6.0

Wolverhampton—Trades Council—Speaker: Mrs. Ring 8.0

Forthcoming Meetings Scottish Women's Hospitals.

JANUARY 17th, at 4.30.—Mrs. Kinnel; "At Home," 38, Upper Grosvenor Street, W. Speakers: Miss Henderson, Professor Popovic. Entrance by invitation only. A few cards can be obtained from the Secretary, 66, Victoria Street, S.W.

JANUARY 19th, at 4.30.—Mrs. Anstruther; "At Home," Rutland House, Rutland Gardens, W. Entrance by invitation only. A few cards can be obtained from the Secretary, 66, Victoria Street, S.W.

Items of Interest.

At Bradninch, Devon, a woman is taking charge of the electric lighting station.

A number of women have been appointed as lock-keepers, by the Thames Conservancy Board, and are giving the utmost satisfaction.

In the Barnet Union an appeal is being made to women of leisure to undertake the nursing of patients in the Poor Law Infirmary.

Out of a list, issued last week, of seventy-eight successful candidates for the first examination for the London Medical Degree, thirty-five are women.

Through being on the Cambridge Town Council, Mrs. T. N. Keynes has been able to secure to the women employed by the Council the same war bonus as the men.

Out of 3,500 employees on the Underground Railway 550 are women. The majority are ticket collectors, but they are now being employed as guards on the "Bakerloo" railway, and as lift operators they are doing very well.

The Salford Tramways Committee is considering the employment of women as tram drivers. The attitude of the Trade Union has hitherto been uncompromisingly against the employment of women in this capacity.

"Women bakers, who have been substituted for men, have proved a great success," stated Mr. W. J. Barton, one of the few London bakers who have tried this experiment, to a representative of the *Daily Express*. "I see no reason," he said, "why women should not be more generally employed in bakehouses. It is work which thousands can do, and the Home Office, apparently realising the importance of this, have now issued a licence for women to make bread at night, which will release a large number of men for the Army."

There is an increasing demand for women to act as Army cooks and waitresses in camps, hospitals, convalescent homes, and officers' messes, to release men for military service. The military cooking section of the Women's Legion, Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, have already enrolled 2,000 women for this service, but many more are required. To commence with the salary is £20 a year, with board and accommodation, laundry allowance, and uniform.

Staff Nurse Catherine Margaret Carruthers, of the Territorial Force Nursing Service, has been awarded the Military Medal "for bravery in the field." Sir Douglas Haig mentioned her in his dispatch of November 25th last. She was carrying on her work of attending to the wounded in very dangerous circumstances when she was slightly wounded by a shell which burst near the spot where she was on duty. Having now recovered, she has gone back to work.

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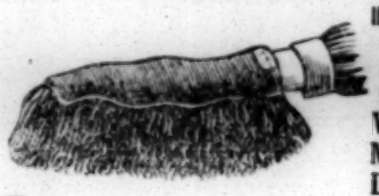

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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

BRITISH DOMINIONS WOMAN SUFFRAGE UNION.—Ten lectures on "Women as Builders of Empire," by Miss Margaret Hodge, St. George's Vestry Hall, Hart-street, Bloomsbury, Tuesdays, beginning January 23th, at 8 p.m. Tickets for the Course, 7s. 6d. (to members of Suffrage Societies, 5s.). Single tickets, 1s., from the Int. Suffrage Shop, 5, Duke-street, Adelphi.

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